

Pioneer Town Tour

Walking Tour of Eagle Point Historical Sites

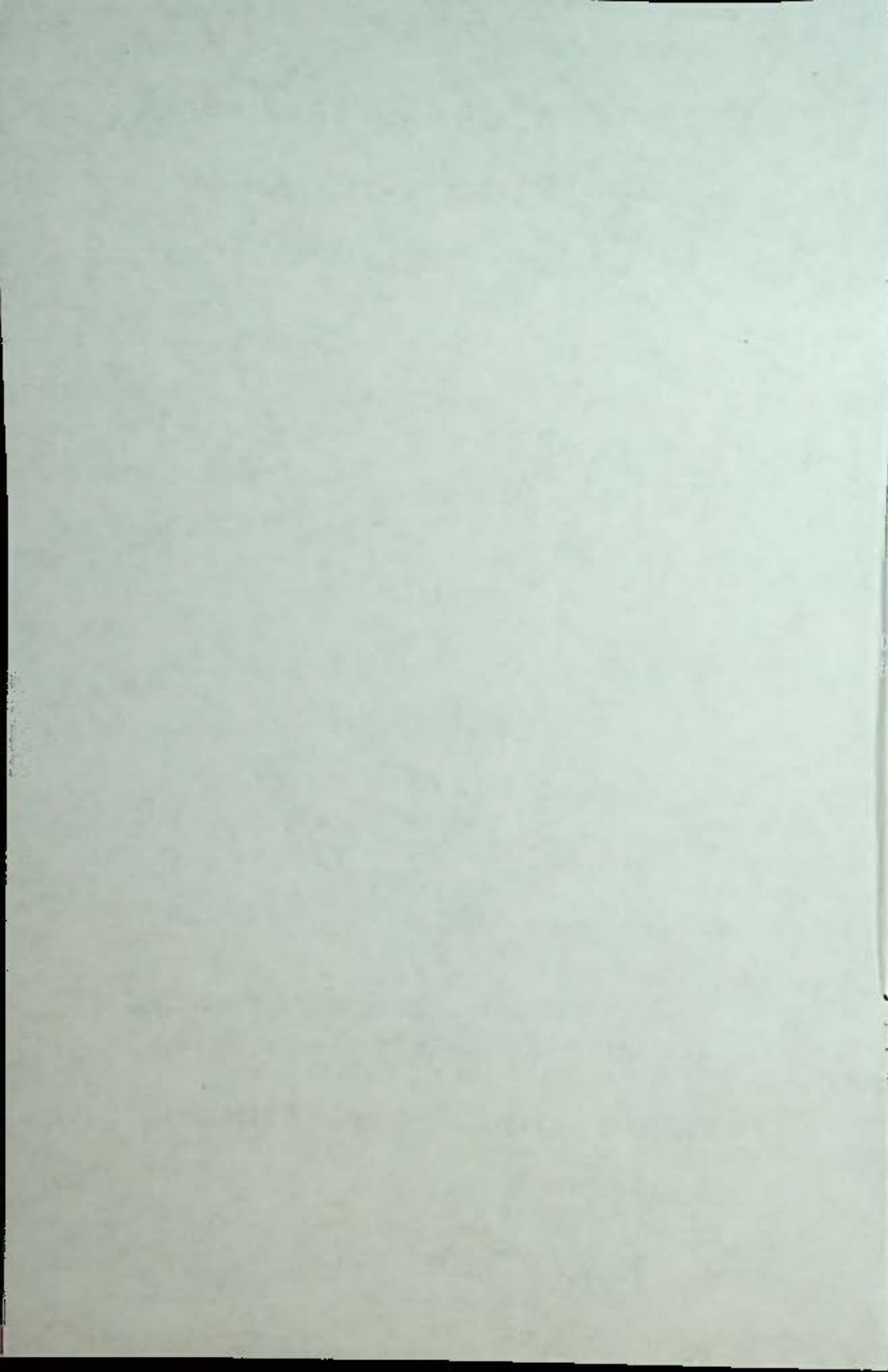


**More information about the history
of Eagle Point may be found at the**

Eagle Point Branch Library

or the

Eagle Point Museum



Eagle Point Structures

1. W.L. Childreth Blacksmith and Wagonmaker
104 West Main Street
2. Clements Lumber, Post Office and Telephone
Company
118 West Main Street
3. Judge F. Marion Stewart Home
136 West Main Street
4. Eagle Point Livery & Feed Stable
140 West Main Street
5. First State Bank of Eagle Point
178 West Main Street
6. Von Der Hellen Hardware
204 West Main Street
7. George Brown & Sons Store
203 - 205 West Main Street
8. Eagle Point Hardware
173 West Main Street
9. Nichols Building
111 - 113 West Main Street
10. Eagle Point Wagon Bridge
South Royal Ave. & Loto Street

Pioneer Buildings in Eagle Point A Historical Walking Tour

Eagle Point has been in existence since gold was first discovered in Jacksonville in 1852. A school was established to accommodate the children who lived in the area as early as 1856. The Homestead Act of 1862 may have provided land for settlement and growth in the Eagle Point area. The area was named Eagle Point after the first post office was established in 1862. It was on the farm of one of the first landowners in the area, John Mathews. A story has it that Mathews looked toward a butte, north of town, where the eagles rested, and said "Eagle Point!"

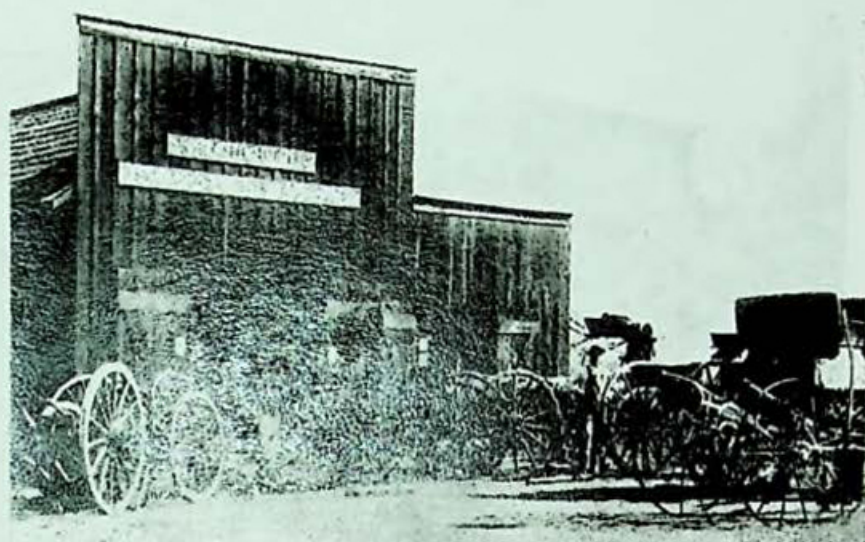
Eagle Point was built along the banks of the nearby Little Butte Creek. It became a major trade center when Snowy Butte Mill was built in 1872. The grist mill quickly became an economic hub for the area. It is said that wagons lined the road to the mill for miles waiting to have their grain ground into flour. In addition to local farmers, the mill was important to Native Americans, who walked more than 90 miles over Old Military Trail, from Fort Klamath, to trade leather and berries for flour.

It wasn't until the Pacific and Eastern Railroad arrived in the early 1900s, a commercial district developed, along the edge of town. As a result, the city became incorporated in 1911. As Eagle Point blossomed, it became the home to three hotels, two hardware stores, a lumberyard, a billiard and pool hall, a confectionery store, a bank, a livery stable, two blacksmith shops, a few saloons, and some dance halls and other businesses. Eagle Point was known for their rowdy behavior and bootleggers. Three of the original brick buildings are still standing. They housed the First State Bank of Eagle Point, Nichols Building and George Brown & Sons Store.

A school house, built in 1925, has been converted into a museum, which contains the largest collection of historic artifacts in Jackson County. Contained within the historic district is the Butte Creek Mill, a rock house built in the 1870's, a school built in 1899, which is still in use by the school district, a church constructed in 1906, and three Brown Family Homes built in 1912.

1. W.L. Childreth - Blacksmith Shop & Wagonmaker

104 West Main Street



As luck would have it in May 1905, Andrew Jackson Childreth and his two sons, Wesley and Henry, and a man named, Ed Williams, arrived from Oklahoma. They purchased Harvey Moore's tools and stock and opened up A.J. Daley's old blacksmith shop.

In 1907, Wes Childreth hired a helper named Clarno, and then in 1910, he hired George Fisher to work as a horseshoer. In 1911, he began building a blacksmith and wagon shop near the corner of Main and Royal which was torn down around 1960. Then in 1912, Wes developed an arthritic condition and sold his shop to Vernie and Green Mathews, and George Fisher. After Childreth recovered, he and his brother Henry, returned to blacksmithing, and bought out Mathews & Fisher.

In 1919, when the automobile began to take the place of the horse, W.L. Childreth went along with the changes. On March 5th, he applied for and got his state license, then he was able to do repair work on autos.

2. Clements Lumber, Post Office and Telephone Company

118 West Main Street



This building was built around about 1910. The lumber yard was owned and operated by Walter C. Clements, and carried the usual stock of building materials.

The building was used for many things. A lumberyard was on the eastside of the building. The telephone company occupied the back room. The town was growing rapidly, so the Lumber Company built an attachment on the west side. This attachment housed the telephone company in the back and the post office in the front. All three were in one building and ran at the same time. Later, it became the utilities collection center.

The Clements Lumber Yard building was destroyed by fire in 1999.

3. Judge Francis Marion Stewart

136 West Main Street



Judge F.M. Stewart built his home around 1911 – 1912. This picture was taken around 1915, with Long Mountain in the back ground. The house sat on 10 acres, mostly orchards. F. M. Stewart, who with his brother, J. H. Stewart, planted the first orchard in the valley and shipped the first car of fruit out of the valley in 1893. To the far right are fruit trees.

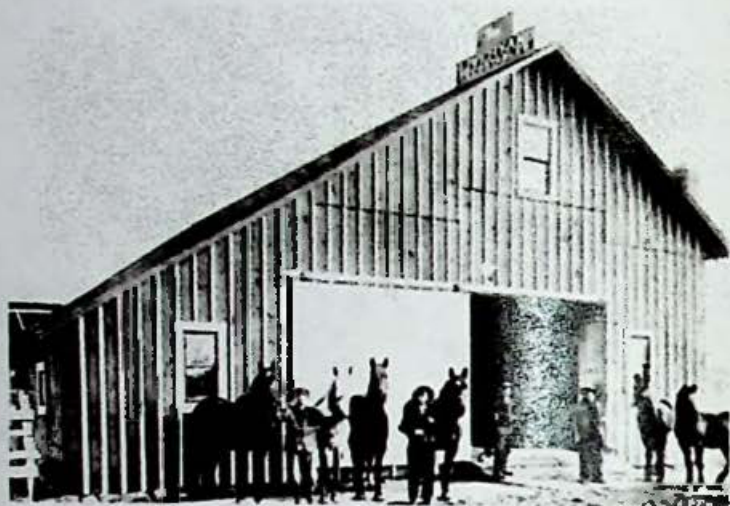
In May 25, 1900, the Republican Party nominated Mr. F. M. Stewart, for Justice of the Peace. Until the last three years, he was a farmer and orchardist in the Phoenix area. Since which time he has been a resident of Medford engaged most of the time as bookkeeper in the Mail Office. He is now in real estate and employed with the agency of Stewart & Chessmore.

By 1913, the Judge held court in the entry area of his two-story home, marrying people, etc. He lived in the rest of the house with his wife Susie. Judge Francis Marion Stewart was elected to the position of City Recorder for Eagle Point in 1911, the year Eagle Point was incorporated.

The City of Eagle Point moved his house to West Main in 2002.

4. Eagle Point Livery & Feed Stable

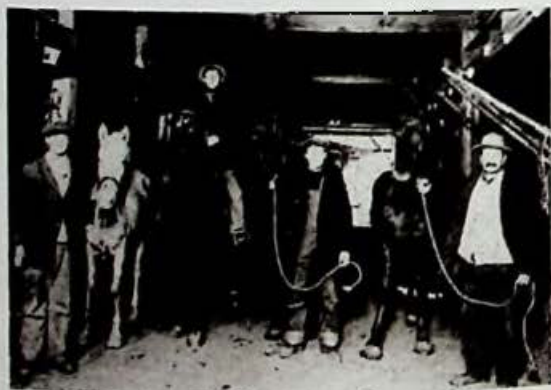
140 West Main Street



(Dave Smith, Ray, unkown, Ben, and Sam Harnish)

Sam Harnish built a livery stable in the spring of 1912, and called it **Eagle Point Livery and Feed Stable**. He also hauled freight between Central Point and Eagle Point. The Eagle Point Livery was well equipped with a good line of rigs of all kinds. It had every facility for the accommodation of the traveling man and tourists. "They have been in business here one year and have built up a splendid trade." Mr. Sam H. Harnish is also a member of the city council and is an enterprising businessman.

On Sept. 1, 1916 the Eagle Point Livery burned. Inside was about 3 ton of dry hay that burned quickly. Only the horses and part of the saddle harnesses were saved. Sam rented a barn adjoining Art Poole's Eagle Hotel and started business again.



(Dave Smith, Bob, Ray & Sam Harnish)

5. First State Bank of Eagle Point

178 West Main Street



The First State Bank of Eagle Point, established in 1911, had handsome and well-arranged banking rooms, a large fire-proof vault, a fire and burglar-proof safe, (on exhibit at the EP Museum) with triple time locks guaranteeing absolute safety to stockholders and depositors. This bank had ample capital for the transaction of general banking business and carried large and increasing time deposits. The officers are well known businessmen of means.



The bank president was J. Frank Brown. The cashier J. V. McIntire, who was one of the organizers of the bank, came here from Chicago, where he was in banking for some time. This bank also acted as an agent for several old time Fire Insurance Companies.



6. Von Der Hellen Hardware

204 West Main Street



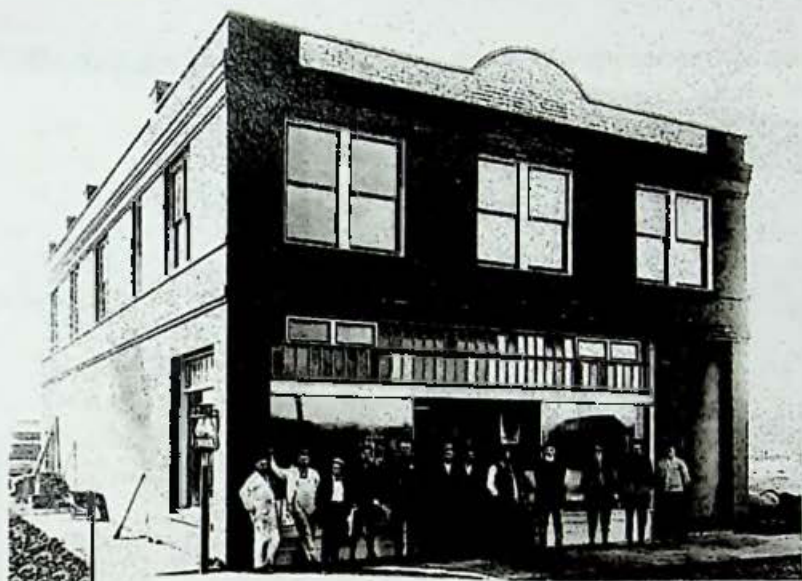
Von Der Hellen Hardware was built in 1911. Pictured above is William Von Der Hellen standing in the center of doorway plus other locals.

Von Der Hellen's included pharmacy supplies, hardware of all types, and a "blind pig" in his store. The blind pig, we were told, was nothing more than a jug of "Happy Water." He kept it behind the counter for his many good friends. It was illegal to sell it across the counter at that time.

In 1915, William Von Der Hellen went into the construction business. He built several brick building on the Main Street. These included; the bank, George Brown's Store, his store and the Nichols Building. He sold the hardware store to Roy Ashpole in 1915.

7. George Brown & Sons Store

203-205 West Main Street



There was still work to be done, when this photo was taken of the new George Brown & Sons Store. The store opened in 1911. The two men on the far left were in their paint clothes. On the far right is Royal Brown, standing beside him is his brother, Merritt. The man, in the vest and white shirt, is Frank Brown. Fifth from the left is Ed Cingcade, Eagle Point policeman. Billy Lewis, owner of the Confectionary Store west from the Von Der Hellen Hardware, is third from the left.

In 1910, George's eldest son, Royal, came into the business. From then on, the business was known as George Brown and Sons. In 1911, they built a large double store and warehouse. The downstairs sold dry goods, shoes, clothing, groceries, fresh meat, etc. They installed a Frigidaire cooling system in their grocery. Brown's had an extensive trade throughout this region. It had a few offices and a large meeting room upstairs.

"Calendar" plates were given away to favored customers, several of which are at the Eagle Point Museum.

8. Eagle Point Hardware

173 West Main Street



There was another hardware store on Main Street in the building kitty corner across the street from the Von Der Hellen Hardware. The business was owned by Ben Salter.

When Donna and Roy Ashpole were married, they bought the Salter store in 1912. Salter Hardware was renamed Eagle Point Hardware.

Business was conducted by Roy Ashpole ably assisted by his wife. Full lines of hardware, harness, auto accessories and patent medicines were carried.

They operated in the Salter building until circa 1915, when they bought and moved into the Von Der Hellen's Hardware.

OLD EAGLE POINT TOWN ORDINANCES

Here is a portion of some of the early ordinances.

Eagle Point was incorporated in 1911.

Ordinance No 1

The town of Eagle Point, made an ordinance to prevent stock from running at large on the streets and of the town of Eagle Point, Oregon and fixing the penalties therefore.

Section 1. That it shall be unlawful for any person owning any horses, mules, cattle, sheep, goats or hogs, to suffer or permit said stock, or any of them, to run large upon any of the alleys of the town of Eagle Point, Oregon, provided however, milk cows owned by residents of the town may run at large except during the months of November, December, January, and February of each year.

Section 2. Any horses, mules, person to drive or cattle, sheep, goats, or hogs found running at large upon any of the streets or alleys of the said town, except milk cows provided in section one of this ordinance, may be taken up by the town marshal or his deputies and property kept in a pound or enclosed at the owners expense, *(February 23, 1911).*

Ordinance No 2

It shall be unlawful for any

person to appear and be upon any of the streets or alleys of said town in a drunken or disorderly condition.

Section 3. It shall be unlawful for any person to conduct himself in any violent, riotous or by fighting or otherwise in a disorderly manner within the corporate limits of said town or to use loud, violent, profane, abusive or obscene language or acts within sight or hearing of the general public who are or may be present on the streets of said town.

Any person violating the provisions of Section 3 of the ordinance, shall be punished by a fine not exceeding twenty five dollars or by imprisonment in the town jail for a period not exceeding twenty five days, *(September 1911).*

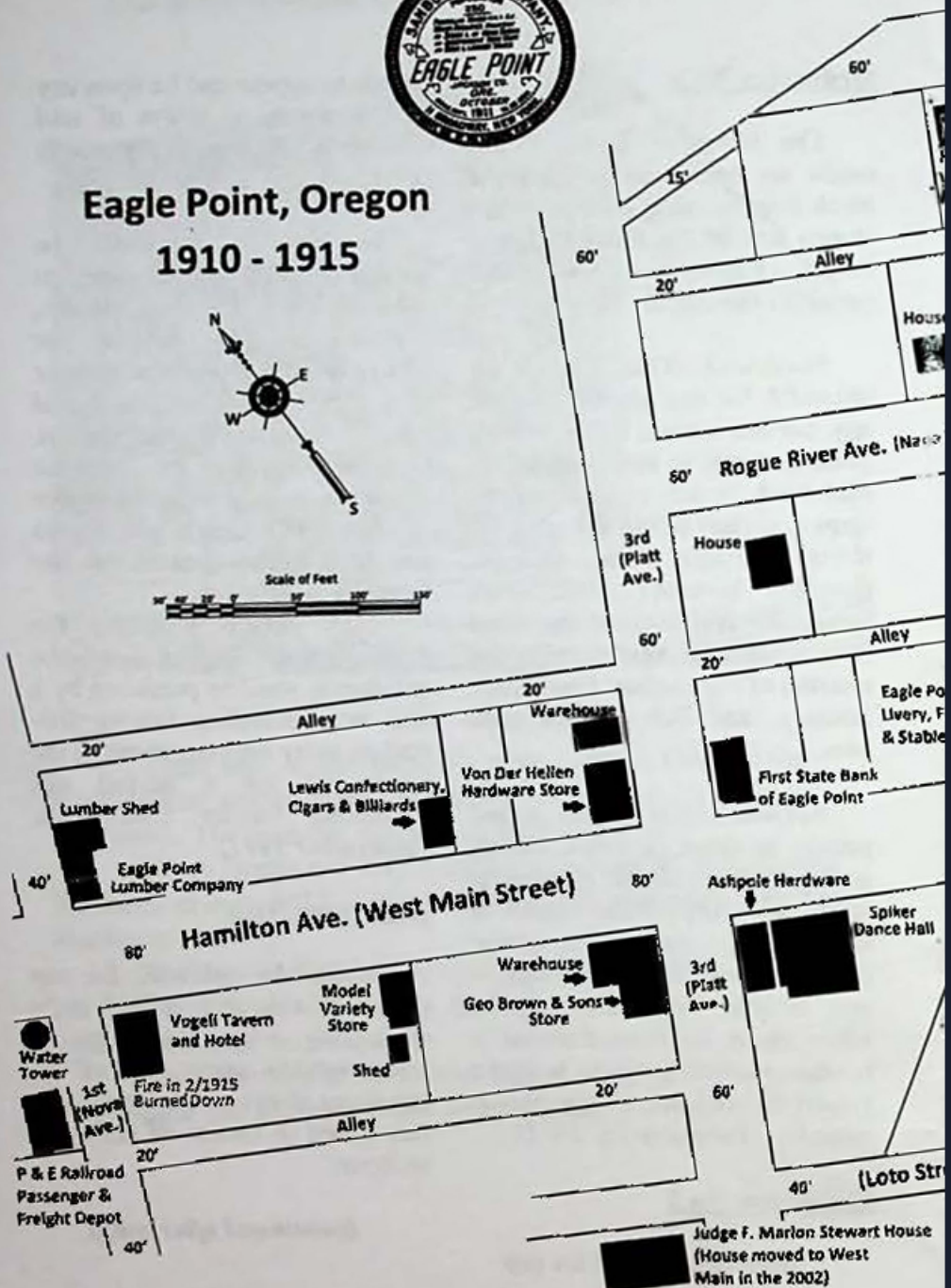
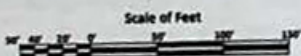
Ordinance No 3

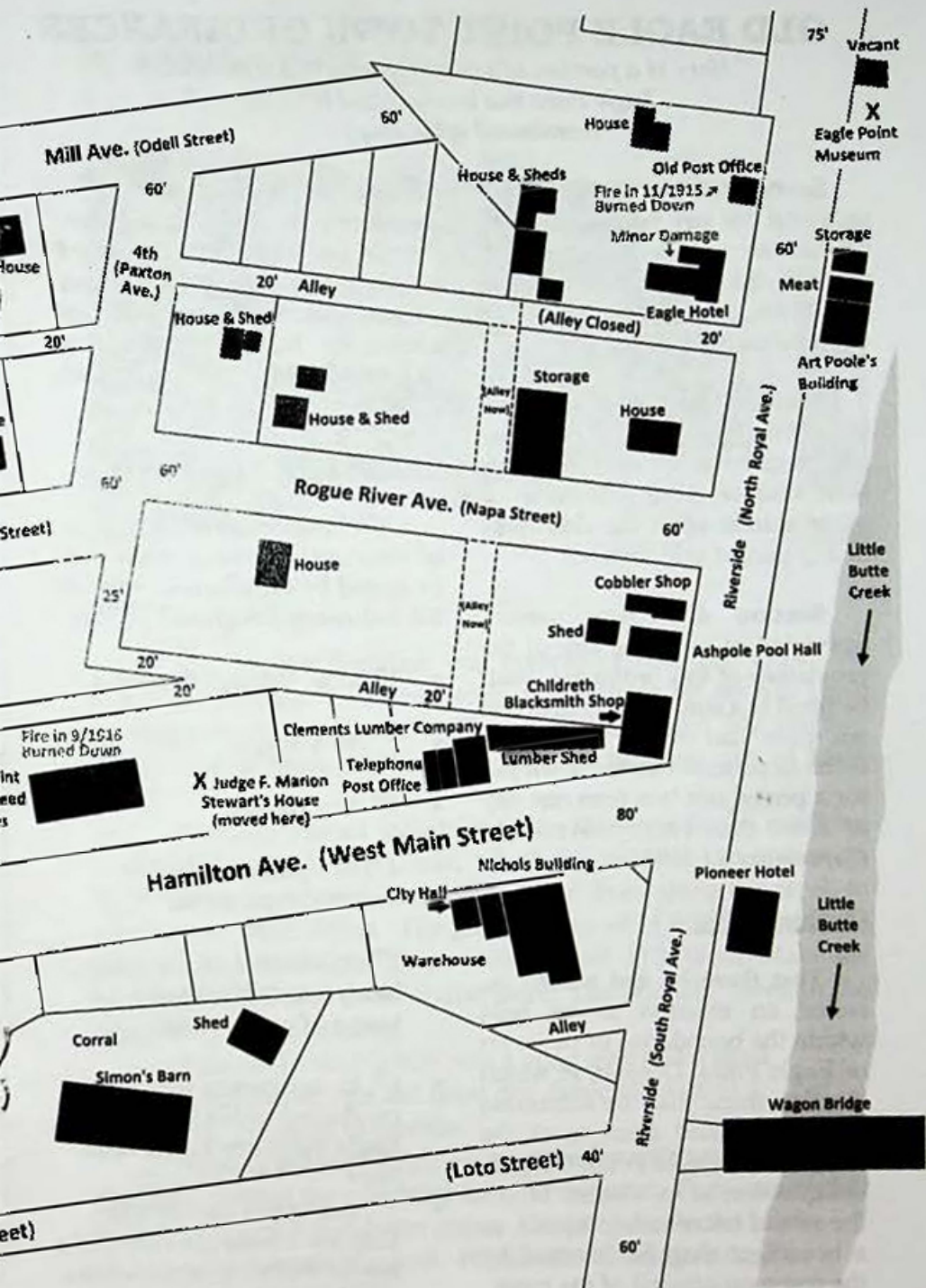
It shall be unlawful for any person to ride any animal or to drive any wagon, carriage or other vehicle upon any of the streets or alleys of said town at a rate speed in excess of six miles an hour.

(continued after map)



Eagle Point, Oregon 1910 - 1915





OLD EAGLE POINT TOWN ORDINANCES

Here is a portion of some of the early ordinances.

Eagle Point was incorporated in 1911.

(continued after map)

Section 2. It shall be unlawful for any person to drive or run an automobile upon or through the streets or alleys of said town, at any faster rate than eight miles per hour.

Section 3. It shall be unlawful for any person to drive any wagon or other vehicle or ride, lead or drive any horse or other animal upon the sidewalks in any part of said town.

Section 4. Any person, convicted of violating any of the provisions of this ordinance, shall be fined in a sum not less than one nor more than twenty five dollars or be imprisoned in the town jail for a period not less than one day or more than twenty five days, *(September 11, 1911).*

Ordinance No 4

That there be and hereby is, called an election to be held within the boundaries of the town of Eagle Point, Oregon, at which election there shall be submitted to the qualified electors of the said town of Eagle Point, Oregon, the question as to whether or not the sale of intoxicating liquors, as a beverage, shall be licensed by the common council of the town of Eagle Point, Oregon. Said

election shall be held within the boundaries of said Eagle Point, Oregon on Sat. the 18th day of March 1911. Wm. Von Der Hellen, John Watkins and James Ringer are hereby appointed as Judges of said election, *(March 11, 1911).*

Ordinance No 8

No license to sell or dispose of intoxicating liquors shall ever be issued by the council to any of the following designated persons.

- 1st, to an habitual drunkard
- 2nd, to a minor
- 3rd, to a female
- 4th, to a person of bad or immoral reputation.
- 5th, to a keeper of a hurdy-gurdy house or a house of prostitution.
- 6th, to any person who has conducted within the town of Eagle Point any house of ill fame.
- 7th, nor to any person who shall have been convicted of a lawful violation of any of the provisions of this ordinance.

9. Nichols Building

111-113 West Main Street



The Nichols Building was completed June 26, 1912. At that time, William Von Der Hellen was putting up several brick buildings on Main Street. Thomas Nichols and his brother, Arthur, had William build a brick store on the west side of Main Street.

Thomas, was an industrious man who was in the ranching business at Lake Creek. Then, when the railroad came through Eagle Point, the town's direction changed from along the creek to what is now Main Street. The ground floor of 111 West Main was used as a pool hall, a grocery store, and 113 West Main the McPherson-Briscom merchandise store. The Nichols' lived in the upper story of the building.

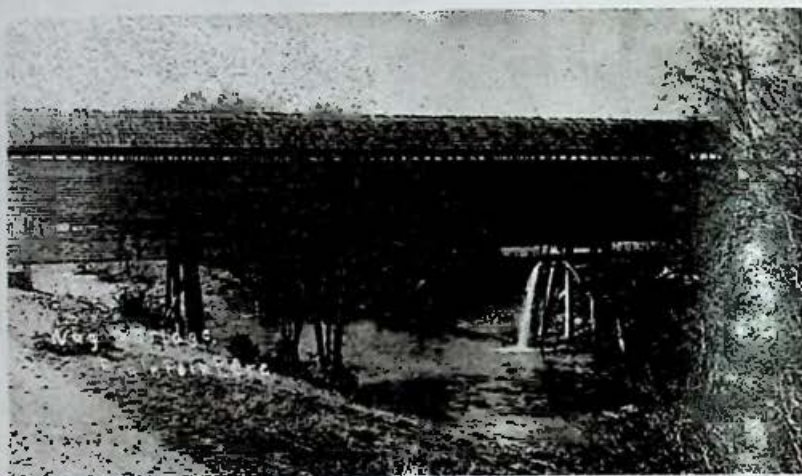
Thomas Event Nichols was a good man and a good provider, but he had one bad habit that drove his wife to distraction. He liked to gamble.

Playing poker in Eagle Point was a favorite pastime. Thomas operated the merchant store for 14 years. Then, one night he lost all his cash in a poker game. His last bet was the brick building, on the turn of a card. He lost the building to Andrew Florey in November 1925.

10. Eagle Point Wagon Bridge

North Royal Ave & Loto Street

The Wagon Bridge was located around Loto Street, where the newest bridge was built in 2000's.



Left to right -- Ed Cingcade and Amos Ayers

General History of Eagle Point Time Line

1852 Settlement started in Little Butte Creek area.

1853 John M. Nichols came to Eagle Point.

1854 John Mathews moved north of town.

1856 Schools started north of Eagle Point until construction of a one room school house at 281 South Royal.

1870's Roy Ashpole moved to town from a ranch up Little Butte Creek.

1872 Snowy Butte Mill was built along the banks of the nearby Little Butte Creek.

1877 Robert Brown moved his business to Eagle Point from Brownsboro.

1878 The town boasted two physicians, a Dr. Buck and Dr. Parker, a blacksmith named Mahlon Purdin and a carpenter, Mr. Grossman, a hotel, two dry good stores, three churches and a livestock-branding pen.

1890 The Community Bible Church began as a Baptist Church.

1900 By the turn of the century, apple and pear orchards were being planted.

1905 The Pacific & Eastern Railway was started. Rail service to Eagle Point began in 1907.

1910 Electricity may have come from Gold Ray Dam and in 1912 from the Prospect Hydroelectric Plant.

February 10, 1911 The town of Eagle Point was incorporated. As Eagle Point blossomed, it became the home to four hotels, a livery stable, a blacksmith shop, a few saloons, and some dance halls known for their rowdy behavior and bootleggers.

1911 The Pacific & Eastern Railroad carried passengers and logs to and from Butte Falls from 1911 to 1915. A train depot was built at the corner of 1st Street (Nova Ave.) and Loto Street.

1912 William Von Der Hellen built four new brick buildings on Main Street. These included the George Brown & Sons new store, the Von Der Hellen Hardware Store, the First State Bank of Eagle Point and the Nichols Building.

1913 Eagle Point Telephone Company was formed at Clements Lumberyard.

1915 - 1916 Fire ravished Eagle Point. The Vogeli Tavern and Hotel, (near today's library), and the Eagle Point Livery and Feed Stable, on Main Street, burned down. On North Royal Ave, the Old Post Office burned with minor damage to the Eagle Hotel.

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Thank You

The saying "it takes a Village" certainly applies to this project. The Guardians wish to thank all who helped in making this History Tour possible and a success.

- Barbara Hegne - A Journey Back
- Boy Scout Troop # 48
- Canopy lenders
- City of Eagle Point
- Costume Donors
- Eagle Point High School
- Eagle Point Museum
- Eagle Point Women's Club
- Food 4 Less
- Gaynell Krambeal - A History of Eagle Point and Surrounding Areas Volume I
- Media and Booklet Author
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- Russell Family
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Special Appreciation to our: Planning Committee, Researchers, Script Writers, Actors, Docents, Refreshment Servers, and those who helped with setup, take down and clean-up.

Pioneer Town Tour 2015

Saturday, June 13 12:00 noon - 3:00p.m.

Please be sure to bring this booklet. **It's your ticket.**
You will need it to be admitted to the town tour.

Restroom services will be available.

**The \$12.00 admission includes the
Pioneer Town Walking Tour and Ice Cream Social.**

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136 West Main Street
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**Proceeds benefit the Guardians of the
Eagle Point Museum**

**Printed & Edited 2015
By Guardians of the Eagle Point Museum**